



PATENT APPLICATION  
Q65003

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#12-31-01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Tsutomu NAKAMURA

Appln. No. 09/934,580

Confirmation No.: 7886

Filed: August 23, 2001

For: PNEUMATIC TIRE AND METHOD OF PRODUCING THE SAME

RECEIVED  
DEC 28 2001  
TC 1700

Group Art Unit: 1733

Examiner: (TBA)

STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The undersigned attorney hereby states that, based upon information and belief:

Each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement filed concurrently herewith was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to the filing of said Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

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Registration No. 36,818

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Date: December 27, 2001



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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein that the Examiner may deem material to the patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) no later than three (3) months from the application's filing date for an application other than a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. §1.53(d); or (2) before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a Request For Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. §1.114 and, therefore, no Statement Under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)

or fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is required. Nevertheless, Applicant is submitting a Statement Under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) concurrently herewith.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a Communication from the European Patent Office (EPO) in a counterpart European application citing such documents, together with an English-language version (if not already included) of that portion of the Communication indicating the degree of relevance found by the EPO.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,



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